

REMARKS

INTRODUCTION:

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1-2, 7, and 13 have been amended. No new matter is being presented, and approval and entry are respectfully requested.

Claims 1-13 are pending and under consideration.

On page 5, the Examiner indicated that claims 5, 6, and 8-11 would be allowable if put into independent form. These claims have been so rewritten. Allowance thereof is requested.

REJECTIONS UNDER 35 U.S.C. §102:

In the Office Action, at page 2, item 2, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 7 and 12-13 under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Tago (U.S. Patent No. 4,470,137). The reasons for the rejection are set forth in the Office Action and therefore not repeated. Applicants traverse this rejection and respectfully request reconsideration.

Tago discusses a hard disk turntable having a motor rotating body, but fails to teach or suggest a clamping nut with "a jig interface." The present invention relates to the clamping nut (30) pressing the clamping washer (50) against the hard disk (D) so that the hard disk (D) is firmly clamped between the clamping washer (50) and the accommodation surface (42) with uniform pressure, (see: paragraph 15 and Figure 4). With the clamping nut of the present invention having a jig interface, the nut is more easily and consistently tightened against the washer. Tago does not provide for this consistency. Therefore, Tago fails to teach or suggest a clamping nut with "a jig interface."

On page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1, 7 and 12-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Korean Publication No. 1999-29337 (hereinafter - Choi). Choi discusses an apparatus for fixing a disk of a hard disk drive. The present invention is directed to an apparatus and method for clamping a hard disk including a clamping nut with "a jig interface." Choi teaches away from the present invention of a clamping nut with "a jig interface" by having a clamping ring (104) with screws (106) and screw holes (104a). The present invention is directed to a clamping nut with "a jig interface" used to screw the nut. The clamping nut with "a jig interface" prevents flexing of the hard disk and the subsequent deformation of the hard disk as compared to using screws. Therefore, Choi does not teach or suggest a clamping nut with "a jig interface."

REJECTION UNDER 35 U.S.C. §103:

On page 4, claims 2-4 that depend on independent claim 1 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over either Tago or Choi in view of Baum et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,836,461 – hereinafter Baum). As discussed above, both Tago and Choi fail to teach or suggest the features found in independent claim 1. The Examiner acknowledged on page 4 that “Neither Tago nor Korean [Choi] disclose a plurality of holes are formed on a horizontal surface of the clamping nut so that the clamping nut is rotatable by inserting a predetermined jig in the plurality of holes as recited in claim 2.” Baum shows only a hub (5), which is neither a clamping nut nor a clamping washer. Claim 1 is amended to include the feature of the clamping nut having “a jig interface.” Baum does not teach or suggest such. Baum fails to cure the deficiencies of either Tago or Choi. Thus, Tago or Choi in view of Baum fail to teach or suggest claims 2-4.

Withdrawal of the foregoing rejections is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION:

In accordance with the foregoing, Applicants respectfully submit that all outstanding objections and rejections have been overcome and/or rendered moot, and further, that all pending claims patentably distinguish over the cited art. Thus, there being no further outstanding objections or rejections, the application is submitted as being in condition for allowance which action is earnestly solicited.


If the Examiner has any remaining issues to be addressed, it is believed that prosecution can be expedited by the Examiner contacting the undersigned agent for a telephone interview to discuss resolution of such issues.

If there are any underpayments or overpayments of fees associated with the filing of this Amendment, please charge and/or credit the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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